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BOOK GROUP

Translation Rights List

Including



FICTION
January 2019

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Key

- Rights sold displayed in parentheses indicates that we do not control the rights
- An asterisk indicates a new title since previous Rights list
- Titles in italics were not published by Little, Brown Book Group.

Rights Department

ANDY HINE

Rights Director

Brazil, Germany, Italy, Poland, Scandinavia, Latin America and the Baltic States

andy.hine@littlebrown.co.uk

+44 (0) 20 3122 6545

KATE HIBBERT

Rights Director

Portugal, Far East, the Netherlands, Flemish Belgium, the Indian Subcontinent and all of Eastern Europe excluding Poland.

kate.hibbert@littlebrown.co.uk

+44 (0) 20 3122 6619

HELENA DOREE

Senior Rights Manager

The USA, France, Greece, Hebrew and Arabic rights.

helena.doree@littlebrown.co.uk

+44 (0) 20 3122 6598

ANNIINA VUORI

Contracts Director

Worldwide Spanish and Catalan rights

Anniina.Vuori@littlebrown.co.uk

+44 (0) 203122 6553

RUTH CASE-GREEN

Rights Executive

Ruth.Case-Green@littlebrown.co.uk

+44 (0) 203122 6446

JESSICA CALLAGHAN

Rights Assistant

Jessica.Callaghan@littlebrown.co.uk

+44 (0) 203122 6996

Little, Brown Book Group

Carmelite House

50 Victoria Embankment

London

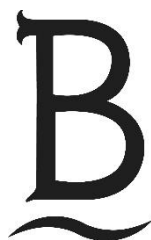
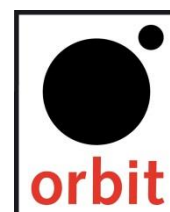
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Little, Brown Imprints



CONSTABLE





Contemporary

* **THE LIGHT WITHIN US** by Charlotte Betts

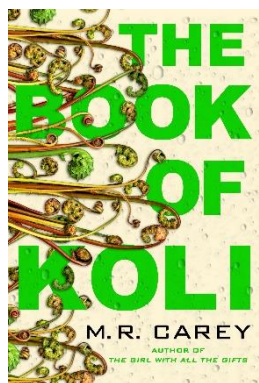
Historical Fiction | Piatkus | 400pp | March 2020

The first title in the *Spindrift* trilogy: an historical, multi-generational family drama set at the turn of the century

The story is set in the 1890s at Spindrift House overlooking the sea at Port Isaac, Cornwall. The trilogy follows talented painter Edith Fairchild, passionate in love and stalwart in her pursuit of artistic excellence, as she matures from an idealistic bride to the matriarch of the Spindrift community. The stories explore themes of the far-reaching effects of infidelity, together with women's rights and friendships.

In the golden afternoon of the turn of the century, Edith founds Spindrift artists' community in Cornwall with her husband Benedict and their friends Clarissa, Dora and old flame, Pascal. When Benedict abandons Edith, she cannot divorce him if she is to retain her home and children. Dora sacrifices her art to take on an unexpected challenge and Clarissa's reckless actions result in an illegitimate baby fathered by hostile neighbour Hugh Penrose. Hugh exposes weaknesses within the community that threaten to tear apart what the friends had expected to be an idyllic way of life. Pascal supports Edith as she fights successfully to ensure Spindrift's future whilst striving to fulfil her artistic promise. She grows to love Pascal for his calm good sense and is overjoyed when he tells her he loves her, too. They cannot marry but are blissfully happy together painting by the sea.

CHARLOTTE BETTS is the author of a number of previous historical novels. *THE APOTHECARY'S DAUGHTER*, her debut novel, which won the YouWriteOn Book of the Year in 2010, the Romantic Novelists' Association Joan Hessayon Award for New Writers in 2011, and the RoNA's Historical Category award for 2013. The sequel, *THE PAINTER'S APPRENTICE* was published in 2012 and shortlisted for the Festival of Romance's Best Historical Read Award in 2012. *THE SPICE MERCHANT'S WIFE* was published in 2013 and won the Festival of Romance's Best Historical Read Award in 2013. Option Publishers: Italian (Newton Compton), Lithuanian (Alma Littera)



THE BOOK OF KOLI: The Rampart Trilogy, Book 1 by M.R. Carey

Contemporary Fiction | Orbit | 400pp | April 2020 | Korea: Duran Kim | Japan: Japan Uni

This is the tale of Koli - a young man who lives in the village of Mythen Rood. This is a future Britain, but one which is barely recognisable now.

Things have been very different since environmental disaster wreaked havoc on nature, and since the Unfinished War caused a complete societal breakdown and brought humanity close to extinction...For one thing, the villagers are practically held prisoner within their settlement walls, because if you risk stepping into the vastly overgrown forests that surround them whilst the sun is out, the choker trees will crush you in their midst - that's if one of their deadly seeds doesn't land on you first and burrow into your skin. And that's not even to mention the shunned men . . .

If you fall into their hands, you'll never be seen again. Rumour has it that they'll skin you alive and eat what's left. But Koli and his village feel safe and protected due to one thing: The Ramparts, those key four people who defend the village using the special tech of the Old Times. These Ramparts are the chosen ones: the only ones for whom the technology has "woken", and the only ones who can wield the power of these weapons. And they are the elite of the village, living the life of privilege that their honoured status earns them. Koli is coming to the age where he - like all those his age - will take the test to see if he is destined to be a Rampart, a sacred protector of the village. But when Koli discovers a corruption in the testing ceremony, and at the heart of the whole village, he will fight back. But the consequences of his actions will be far greater than he could have imagined.

Praise for *THE GIRL WITH ALL THE GIFTS*: *As fresh as it is terrifying . . . It left me sighing with envious joy* - Joss Whedon; *Original, thrilling and powerful* - *The Guardian*; *Haunting, heart-breaking* - *Vogue*.

M.R. CAREY'S novel *THE GIRL WITH ALL THE GIFTS* sold over a million copies and was turned into a major film in 2016 starring Glenn Close and Gemma Arterton. Under the name Mike Carey he has written for both DC and Marvel, including critically acclaimed runs on *X-Men* and *Fantastic Four*, Marvel's flagship superhero titles.

* **THE GIRL WHO... by Andreina Cordani**

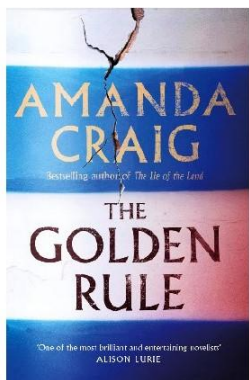
Contemporary YA Fiction | Atom | 256pp | September 2020

'People can't bring themselves to say what happened to her. They just describe her as "the girl who... you know...'

They've only just been forced to moved in together, but Ellie is already fed up with having to tiptoe around her 17-year-old step-sister, Leah. Yes, Leah did witness her mother and sister be stabbed to death when she was just a child, but seriously, she's not a doll. In fact, Ellie is pretty sure that the Leah behind the perfect facade is anything but sweet and fragile...

Leah has no time Ellie's dramatics, or her gimmicks for trying to become an online influencer. Leah has enough on her plate: painful memories, the pressure of being the perfect poster child of the charity set up in memory of her mother and sister, and a secret she can't let anyone know. . . And then, Crow, the man imprisoned for the attack - and the only one who knows her secret - is let out of prison.

As previous books and features editor at Cosmopolitan and Goodhousekeeping, feature writer for Grazia, Prima and Stylist, as well as current book reviewer at Sunday Express, Andreina Cordani has a background in journalism. THE GIRL WHO... is Andreina's debut novel, drawing inspiration from real life stories she's encountered.



THE GOLDEN RULE by Amanda Craig

Contemporary Fiction | Little, Brown | 400pp | June 2020 | Korea: Duran Kim | Japan: TMA

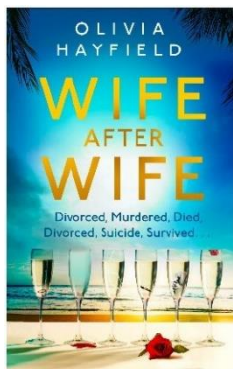
Amanda Craig's new novel turns on two women who meet by chance and discover that they are both victims of abusive husbands. Together, they plot their revenge.

When Hannah is invited into the First-Class carriage of the London to Penzance train by Jinni, she walks into a spider's web. Now a poor young single mother, Hannah once escaped Cornwall to go to university. But once she married Jake and had his child, her dreams were crushed into bitter disillusion. Her husband has left her for Eve, rich and childless, and Hannah has been surviving by becoming a cleaner in London. Jinni is equally angry and bitter, and in the course of their journey the two women agree to murder each other's husbands. After all, they are strangers on a train - who could possibly connect them? But when Hannah goes to Jinni's husband's home the next night, she finds Stan, a huge, hairy, ugly drunk who has his own problems - not least the care of a half-ruined house and garden. He claims Jinni is a very different person to the one who has persuaded Hannah to commit a terrible crime. Who is telling the truth - and who is the real victim?

Praise for Amanda Craig: *She is a humane writer as well a waspish one and it is the plight of London's migrant workers and sink-school pupils with which she is primarily concerned here, and her passion and care are affecting* -*The Observer* on HEARTS AND MINDS; *A marvellously readable novel, written with great humour and spark, but also social heart and central relevance to the way we live now.*

AMANDA CRAIG is a British novelist, short-story writer and critic. Born in South Africa in 1959, she grew up in Italy, where her parents worked for the UN, and was educated at Bedales School and Clare College, Cambridge. After a brief time in advertising and PR, she became a journalist for newspapers such as *The Sunday Times*, *The Observer*, *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Independent*, winning both the Young Journalist of the Year and the Catherine Pakenham Award. She was the children's critic for *The Independent on Sunday* and *The Times*. She still reviews children's books for *The New Statesman*, and literary fiction for *The Observer*, but is mostly a full-time novelist. HEARTS AND MINDS was long-listed for the 2010 Bailey's Prize for Women's Fiction. Option publishers: Italian (Astoria)

Italian - Astoria



WIFE AFTER WIFE by Olivia Hayfield

Contemporary Fiction | Piatkus | 464pp | July 2020

A rollicking retelling of the story of England's favourite ginger tyrant - King Henry VIII - but with a 21st century twist

Divorced, murdered, died, divorced, suicide, survived...

Wealthy, devilishly handsome businessman Harry Rose is head of Rose Corporation, No.18 on the Forbes rich list and recently married to wife number six. But in 2018, with business in the spot light and his love life under scrutiny, Harry's perfect world has the potential to come crashing to the ground - and Harry is worried man. As Harry's conscience battles to justify his past actions - from 1980s young gun to present-day ginger tyrant - he begins to realise how the strong, savvy women he's loved and lost have played host to a life story worthy of any tabloid. And that behind the money, sex and glamour lies a truer tale of infidelity, intrigue and lies...

OLIVIA HAYFIELD is a published author and has worked as an editor for over 20 years. Born in the UK, where she lived most of her life, she now lives in New Zealand.

US - Penguin Publishing Group

RANDOM SHIT FLYING THROUGH THE AIR by Jackson Ford

Fantasy | Orbit | 528pp | June 2020

Teagan Frost's life is finally back on track.

Her role working for the government as a psychokinetic operative is going well. She might also be on course for convincing her crush, Nic Delacourt, to go out with her. And she's even managed to perfect her paella recipe. But Teagan is about to face her biggest threat yet. A young boy with the ability to cause earthquakes has come to Los Angeles - home to the San Andreas, one of the most lethal fault lines in the world. If Teagan can't stop him, the entire city - and the rest of California - will be wiped off the map . . . Option Publishers: German (*Verlagsgruppe Droemer Knaur*), US (Orbit)

An action-packed, high-octane sequel to *The Girl Who Could Move Sh*t with her Mind*, full of imagination, wit and random sh*t flying through the air.

*** THE MARGATE MAID by Lynne Francis**

Historical Fiction | Piatkus | 400pp | March 2020

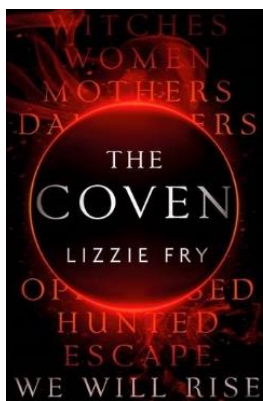
A saga of love and betrayal in late 18th century Kent and London from saga author Lynne Francis, perfect for fans of Dilly Court and Rosie Goodwin

Margate, 1786: Dairymaid Molly Goodchild feels trapped by her circumstances. But she has a friend in apprentice gardener Charlie Drayson, and together they share a passion for flowers and herbs. Eager to better herself, Molly seizes the chance to work for her more affluent uncle. A friendship she strikes up with a young artist called Will Turner, drawn to Margate harbour to paint, fuels her aspirations towards a better kind of life. And when her dashing naval cousin Nicholas returns home, her head is turned by his flattering attentions . . .

Lynne Francis is the author of *The Mill Valley Girls* saga trilogy, published by Avon. She grew up in Yorkshire and later returned there for an Arvon writing course. For some years she ran a small non-fiction publishing company producing part-works. She lives in Kent.

* **THE COVEN by Lizzie Fry**

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 3384pp | February 2021



Let me repeat myself, so we can be very clear. Women are not the enemy. Whilst they may use their gifts against one another and against us men and - dare I say it! - even our beloved, innocent children, we must rise above their ambitions for power and desire for petty revenge. Now, we must work to correct the balance their female excesses have put out of whack. We must protect them from themselves, just as much as we must protect ourselves. In the words of our Lord, Jesus Christ: forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Imagine a world in which witchcraft is real. In which mothers' hand down power to their daughters, power that is used harmlessly and peacefully. Then imagine that the US President is a populist demagogue who decides that all witches must be interned for their own safety, and the safety of those around them - creating a world in which to be female is one step away from being criminal... As witches across the world are rounded up, one girl begins to discover her power. It's a dangerous force and it brings her into contact with the Sentinel, a shadowy global organisation dedicated to the destruction of all witchcraft. Will Chloe and her helpers survive a breathless chase across Europe and the USA to find and save the source of all women's power before the Sentinel can destroy it?

LIZZIE FRY is the pseudonym of an internationally acclaimed author and script editor. As well as working with numerous film production companies, she is a core member of the London Screenwriters' Festival board.

German – Heyne Verlag; Spanish – Planeta; Hungarian - Cartaphilus

* **DARKE MATTER: A NOVEL by Rick Gekoski**

Contemporary Fiction | Constable | 304pp | May 2020

An arresting, masterful novel that asks us to confront one of the most difficult moral dilemmas of our ages.

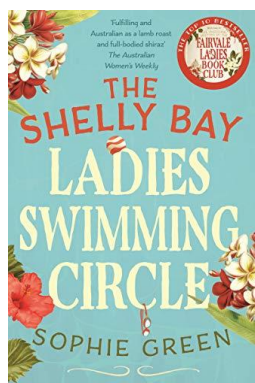
James Darke helped his beloved wife, Suzanne, die. And now he is holed up in his house waiting for his daughter, Lucy, son-in-law, Sam, and beloved grandson, Rudy, to arrive for Christmas.

But what James does not realise is that Sam is still troubled by the part James played in Suzanne's recent death. Thus, the events that will come to tear apart the family - and force James to confront one of the most difficult moral dilemmas of our age - are set in motion.

RICK GEKOSKI came from his native America to do a PhD at Oxford, and went on to teach English at the University of Warwick. In 1982, sick of lecturing, he decided to become a full-time rare book dealer, specialising in important twentieth-century first editions and manuscripts. He lives in London and spends time each year in Paris and New Zealand.

THE SHELLY BAY LADIES SWIMMING CIRCLE by Sophie Green

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 432pp | February 2020



It's the summer of 1982. The Man from Snowy River is a box office hit and Paul Hogan is on the TV...

In a seaside suburb of NSW, housewife Theresa Howard takes up swimming. She wants to get fit; she also wants a few precious minutes to herself. So at sunrise each day she strikes out past the waves. From the same beach, the widowed Marie swims. With her husband gone, bathing is the one constant in her new life. After finding herself in a desperate situation, 26-year-old Leanne only has herself to rely on. She became a nurse to help others, even as she resists help herself. Elaine has recently moved from England. Far from home without her adult sons, her closest friend is a gin bottle.

In the waters of Shelly Bay, these four women find each other. They will survive shark sightings, bluebottle stings and heartbreak; they will laugh so hard they swallow water, and they will plunge their tears into the ocean's salt. They will find solace and companionship in their friendship circle, and learn that love takes many forms.

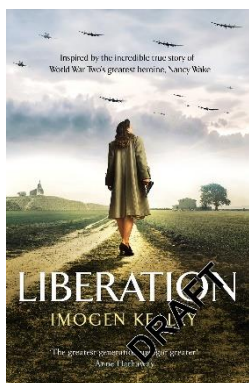
Praise for THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE FAIRVALE LADIES BOOK CLUB: *A sweet tale, and wonderfully atmospheric - Sunday Mirror; A warm hearted, generous book . . . it was a pleasure and sometimes a comfort to come back to the characters each night - Virginia McGregor, author of BEFORE I WAS YOURS.*

SOPHIE GREEN is also the author of THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE FAIRVALE LADIES BOOK CLUB. She has written several fiction and non-fiction books, some under other names. In her spare time she writes about country music on her blog, Jolene. Option publishers: Dutch (De Fontein), Norwegian (Cappelen Damm)

Dutch – Uitgeverij De Fontein; *German* – Goldmann Verlag

LIBERATION by Imogen Kealey

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 384pp | March 2020 | Korea: EYA | Japan:



The must-read thriller inspired by the true story of Nancy Wake, the most decorated servicewoman of the Second World War, soon to be a major blockbuster film

To the Allies she was a fearless freedom fighter, special operations super spy, a woman ahead of her time. To the Gestapo she was a ghost, a shadow, the most wanted person in the world with a five-million Franc bounty on her head. Her name was Nancy Wake. Now, for the first time, the roots of her legend are told in a thriller about one woman's incredible quest to save the man she loves, turn the tide of the war, and take brutal revenge on those who have wronged her.

'Imogen Kealey' is a pseudonym for Darby Kealey and Imogen Robertson.

DARBY KEALEY is a writer and producer, based in Los Angeles. His credits include the critically acclaimed series Patriot for Amazon, as well as a number of film and television projects currently in development. His feature script *Liberation* was nominated to the 2017 Blacklist. He has an MFA in Screenwriting from UCLA, and a BA in Politics from UC Santa Cruz. IMOGEN ROBERTSON is a writer of historical fiction. Now based in London, she was born and brought up in Darlington and read Russian and German at Cambridge. Before becoming a writer, she directed for TV, film, and radio. She is the author several novels, including the *Crowther and Westerman* series. Imogen has been shortlisted for the CWA Historical Dagger three times (2011, 2013 and 2014), as well as for its most prestigious award, the Dagger in the Library. She has also written *King of Kings*, a collaboration with the legendary international bestseller Wilbur Smith.

Catalan – Grup 62; *Czech* – Euromedia; *Danish* – Aronsen; *Dutch* – De Fontein; *Estonian* – Kirjastus Varrak; *Finnish* – Minerva Kustannus Oy; *French* – Editions J C Lattes; *German* – Aufbau; *Greek* – Dioptra; *Hebrew* – Dani Books; *Hungarian* – Europa Kiado; *Italian* – Longanesi; *Japanese* – Shueisha Inc; *Lithuanian* – Baltos Lankos; *Norwegian* – Cappelen Damm A/S; *Polish* – Agora; *Portuguese* – Planeta; *Portuguese in Brazil* – Planeta; *Romanian* – Litera; *Russian* – Eksmo; *Slovene* – Hisa Knjig; *Spanish* – Planeta; *Swedish* – Historiska Media, *US* – Grand Central

***THE UNSTABLE BOYS** by Nick Kent

Contemporary Fiction | Constable | 288pp | July 2020 |

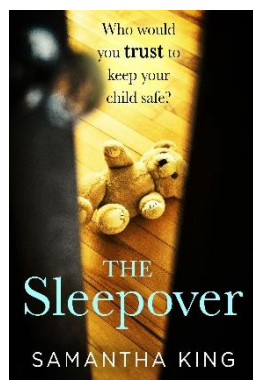
In 1968 The Unstable Boys were the name on every music-biz-insider's lips. But the group weathered its share of tragedy and controversy leading to them breaking up before hitting it big.

Over forty years later a leading computer firm runs a series of ads featuring one of their songs and against all odds the band go to the top of the charts. Their former manager dismisses talk of a reunion but millionaire crime novelist Michael Martindale, an Unstable Boys fanatic as a teenager, is determined to reunite the band.

The moment Martindale invites The Boys into his house, he falls victim to an attraction that utterly overwhelms him. Unknown to Martindale though The Boys' always precarious fortunes have plummeted to an all-time low. A Russian mob have managed to coerce them into signing away all future publishing and performance royalties.

The Boys goes on the run.
The gloves are now off.

NICK KENT is a legendary rock critic and author of the memoir *Apathy for the Devil* (Faber) and *The Dark Stuff* (Faber) which the Spectator called '*a mighty tome, containing some of the best music journalism ever written*'. He was also an apprentice to Lester Bangs, boyfriend of Chrissie Hynde, confidant of Iggy Pop, trusted scribe for Led Zeppelin and the Rolling Stones, and early member of the Sex Pistols. *The Unstable Boys* is his first novel.



THE SLEEPOVER by Samantha King

Contemporary Fiction | Piatkus | 320pp | June 2020

It was meant to be the best night of her son's life. Was it his last?

Izzy is thrilled when her shy, 12-year-old son is invited for his first sleepover. Nick has spent years being isolated and picked on; he deserves a night of fun, friendship and freedom. But Izzy is also nervous: it's a year to the day since bullies put Nick in hospital. She drops him off at his new best friend's house with mixed feelings. Arriving to collect him the following morning, her worst fears come true: Nick isn't there. Who has taken her son? And will she ever get him back?

Praise for Samantha King: *Taunt, tense and very clever. Definitely one to watch out for* - Claire Douglas, *The Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Last Seen Alive*; *An astonishing read! Emotionally raw and unexpected, Samantha King's beautifully crafted THE CHOICE is an utterly unputdownable debut that heralds the entry of a major new talent.*

SAMANTHA KING is a former editor and a qualified psychotherapist. Her debut novel, *THE CHOICE*, was published in 2017. Option publishers: Bulgarian (Enthusiast Books), Czech (Mlada Fronta), Dutch (WPG), Estonian (Ersen), French (City Editions), German (HarperCollins), Hungarian (General Press), Italian (Newton Compton), Polish (HarperCollins), Serbian (Laguna), Turkish (Beyaz Baykus).

Czech – Mlada Fronta a.s.; US – Kensington

THE PARIS SECRET by Natasha Lester

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 464pp | August 2020 |

A wardrobe of Dior gowns, a secret kept for sixty-five years, and the three women bound forever by war...

England, 1939: When war breaks out, talented pilot Skye Penrose joins the British war effort, flying fighter planes across England to the RAF's secret airfields. Here she encounters two people from her past: her estranged sister Liberty and childhood soulmate Nicholas Crawford, now engaged to the enigmatic Frenchwoman Margaux Jourdan. As they are drawn even deeper into the conflict in Europe, an unspeakable betrayal links their destinies.

Cornwall, 2012: Kat Jourdan, a fashion conservator, discovers a priceless collection of Dior dresses in her grandmother Margaux's vacant cottage. As she delves into the mysterious bequest, Kat receives a message that calls into question everything she thought she knew about her beloved grandmother. The message leads her to unearth a heartbreaking story of love and tragedy – and an extraordinary act of sacrifice.

The Paris Secret is an unforgettable story about the lengths people go to protect one another, and a love that, despite everything, lasts a lifetime.

Natasha Lester is the author of six novels, including the bestselling *The Paris Seamstress* and *The French Photographer*.

Praise for Natasha Lester: *[Lester's] engaging writing style and ability to create characters that connect with readers make her a welcome addition to the historical fiction market* – *Herald Sun* on *HER MOTHER'S SECRET*; *If you enjoy historical fiction (and even if you don't) you will love HER MOTHER'S SECRET* – Sally Hepworth.

Finnish – Gummerus; *Danish* – Strawberry Forlag

*** UNTITLED CLARE MACKINTOSH by Clare Mackintosh**

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 400pp | June 2020

The stunning new novel from the number one international bestselling author of *I Let You Go, I See You, Let Me Lie* and *After The End*, Clare Mackintosh.

With over 2 million copies of her books sold worldwide, number one bestseller **Clare Mackintosh** is the multi-award-winning author of *I Let You Go*, which was a *Sunday Times* bestseller and the fastest-selling title by a new crime writer in 2015. It also won the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year in 2016. Both Clare's second and third novels, *I See You* and *Let Me Lie*, were number one *Sunday Times* bestsellers. All three of her books were selected for the Richard & Judy Book Club, and together have been translated into over thirty-five languages.

Clare is patron of the Silver Star Society, a charity based at the John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford, which supports parents experiencing high-risk or difficult pregnancies. She lives in North Wales with her husband and their three children.

*** THE MISSING PIECES OF ME by Amelia Mandeville**

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 400pp | June 2020

Willow and Dustin have been together since they were seventeen, after falling in love at first sight

When Dustin returns home one day to find Willow has disappeared, leaving just a note behind to say goodbye, he can't believe it's happening. Ever since they met at seventeen, they've been head over heels - and now they have their daughter Zara to complete their family. But as Dustin sets about finding Willow, determined to bring her back home, he begins to feel like he's trying to solve a puzzle without all the pieces. Could there really have been things he didn't know about Willow? Or was he just not looking closely enough in the first place?

AMELIA MANDEVILLE has been creating stories and characters in her head ever since she can remember. Besides getting lost in the stories she's written; she spends her time attempting to bake. Amelia is the debut author of *EVERY COLOUR OF YOU*.

THE CHILDREN'S SECRET by Nina Monroe

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 400pp | November 2020

THE CHILDREN'S SECRET is a tense and claustrophobic story about a tight-knit community fracturing, and the eventual healing process after the children's secret is revealed

Eva Day is enjoying the last few days of summer. It's hard to believe only a few months ago she moved to this sleepy New Hampshire town from England with her husband and daughter. The Days are settling into their new community well, although Eva's daughter Lily has been sulking; she's missing home. But Eva has the perfect distraction for her: The Wrights - another family in town - are throwing a birthday party for their son, a great opportunity for Lily to start making new friends. The problem is it's well-known that the Wrights have guns on their farm, and other parents in the town are reluctant to play at the house. In an attempt to bring families together, Eva convinces all the other mothers in her circle - bar one - to attend the party. It's a beautiful day, and adults and children alike having a wonderful time. Until the happy atmosphere is shattered by a gunshot ringing out from the barn where the children are playing.

Praise for Nina Monroe writing as Virginia Macgregor: *A future classic* - Clare Mackintosh on WHAT MILO SAW; *I couldn't put this insightful, compelling novel down* - *Woman & Home* on THE ASTONISHING RETURN OF NORAH WELLS; *A touching look at the meaning of motherhood* - *Good Housekeeping* on THE ASTONISHING RETURN OF NORAH WELLS.

NINA MONROE moved recently from England to New Hampshire with her husband and two daughters. THE CHILDREN'S SECRET is her first book writing as Nina Monroe. She has also written four adult and two young adult novels as Virginia Macgregor. Option Publishers: German (Goldmann).

*** THE MAGNIFICENT SONS by Justin Myers**

Modern & Contemporary Fiction | Piatkus | 352pp | May 2020

Two brothers. Two different journeys. The same hope of a magnificent future.



Jake D'Arcy has spent most of his twenty-nine years trying to get his life just right. He's nearly there: great girlfriend, great friends, stable job. A distant relationship with his boisterous family - which is exactly the way he wants it. So why does everything feel so wrong? When his popular, irritatingly confident teenage brother Trick comes out as gay to a rapturous response, Jake realises he has questions about his own repressed bisexuality, and that he can't wait any longer to find his answers. As Trick begins to struggle with navigating the murky waters of adult relationships, Jake begins a journey that will destroy his relationship with girlfriend Amelia, challenge his closest friendships, and force him to face up to the distance between him and his family - but offers new friends, fewer inhibitions, and a glimpse of the magnificent life he never thought could be his.

JUSTIN MYERS is a writer and editor from Shipley, Yorkshire, who now lives in London. After years working in journalism, he began his popular, anonymous dating blog *The Guyliner* in 2010, spent five years as dating and advice columnist in *Gay Times* and is now a weekly columnist at *British GQ*. His work has appeared in a number of publications including the *Guardian*, *BuzzFeed* and the *Irish Times*, and his first novel *The Last Romeo* was published in 2018. Option publishers: France (J'ai Lu)

A HOUSE IN PROVENCE by Ivy Pembroke

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 352pp | June 2020

It's the offer of a lifetime - a whole summer in a farmhouse in the sun-drenched French countryside! But Libby might have bitten off more than she can chew . . .

As Libby, her new husband Sam, his stepson Teddy, and their helpful dog Jack explore the rambling, enchanting house and meet the locals, they are joined by friends from home who are as affected by the house and its breathtaking surroundings as they are. When Libby's friend Isla, who has been restlessly travelling for years, comes to stay, she meets and falls for American Brooke, a worker at the local vineyard. Will Brooke be the one to finally get Isla to stay in one place? And then Libby has a surprise for Sam... One summer in Provence will change all their lives for ever.

IVY PEMBROKE is a law professor who specialises in copyright and trademark law, with a focus on fanfiction. An enthusiastic writer all her life, she loves the backspace button, overuses italics in emails with friends, and thinks there is little better than a story that makes you smile. Option Publishers: Dutch (A W Bruna Uitgevers), German (Rowohlt Verlag GmbH), Spain (Ediciones Urano), US (Kensington Publishing Corporation)

ASK ME ANYTHING by P.Z. Reizin

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 368pp | June 2020 | Korea: EYA | Japan: Uni

From the author of HAPPINESS FOR HUMANS, comes a wry, witty and hilarious look at how we handle technology - and how it handles us

When Daisy buys herself a smart fridge, she has no idea just how smart. At 31 and with a number of serial dating disasters on Tinder, not to mention a tumultuous relationship with divorced estate agent, Dean Whittle, the appliances in Daisy's apartment have had enough of her lifestyle and unhealthy appetite for midnight tubs of ice cream. Between them they work to convince Daisy that she deserves better than Whittle, leaving her messages promoting the idea that she should love and respect herself more. But Daisy is still making bad choices. When they find a perfect match for Daisy, there's lots of excitement across the Internet of Things but surely not everything can be as easy as it seems.

Praise for HAPPINESS FOR HUMANS: *A sort of Shakespearean comedy of errors but instead of the gods there are rogue AIs seeking to meddle in the affairs of humans. Great fun - The Bookseller; One of the most unique love stories ever written.*

P.Z. REIZIN worked as a journalist and producer in newspapers, radio and television before turning to writing. He has been involved in several Internet startup ventures, none of which went on to trouble Google, Twitter or Facebook. His previous title with Sphere, HAPPINESS FOR HUMANS, is being made into a film. Option publishers: Bulgarian (Gnezdoto): Catalan (Columna), Chinese Complex (Solo Press), Chinese Simplified (TianJin Manyu), Czech (Euromedia), Dutch (Luitingh-Sijthoff), Estonian (Petrona Print), Finnish (Gummerus), French (Albin Michel), German (Manhattan), Hebrew (Kinneret), Hungarian (Libri), Icelandic (Bokabeitan), Italian (Rizzoli), Japanese (TAC Publishing), Korean (Book21), Lithuanian (UAB Jotema), Polish (Proszynski), Portuguese in Portugal (Presenca), Portuguese in Brazil (Distribuidora Record), Romanian (Litera), Russian (Eksmo), Serbian (Vulkan), Slovak (Ikar), Spanish (Planeta), Turkish (Penguin), Ukrainian (Family Leisure Club), US (Grand Central).

*** BACK TO YOU by Tammy Robinson**

Contemporary Romance | Piatkus | 224pp | December 2020

What happens when a couple are torn apart just at the moment when they fall in love?

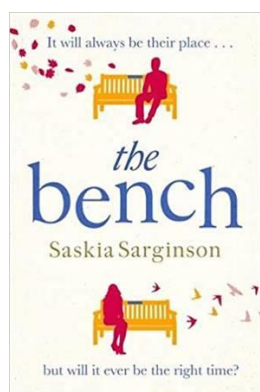
When Finn Young and Zoe Henderson meet, they fall in love hard and fast. But Finn is about to go travelling for a year, fulfilling a promise to his late sister to raise money in support of her illness. It's terrible timing, but Zoe knows their feelings are strong enough to stand the test of time. While Finn is away, however, Zoe loses her leg in a horrific car accident. And now she has to suffer the agony not only of her injury, but of wondering whether Finn will still love her when he comes home. So, she cuts all ties and disappears from Finn's life, without telling him why. And now Finn has to decide how hard he's willing to fight for the girl whose heart he's carried with him, while Zoe has to decide if she's got the strength to find her way back to the girl she once was.

TAMMY ROBINSON lives in New Zealand with her husband, three children and two pets. She has independently published seven novels and is currently working on the next one. Differently Normal and Photos of You are her first books with Little, Brown. Option publishers: Czech (Grada Publishing a.s.), German (HaperCollins Germany GmbH), Polish (Wydawnictwo Iuvi Zo.o. SP J.).

* **THE PERFECT GUESTS by Emma Rous**

Contemporary Fiction | Piatkus | 400pp | January 2021

EMMA ROUS spent her childhood in England, Indonesia, Kuwait, Portugal and Fiji, and grew up wanting to write stories and look after animals. She studied veterinary medicine and zoology at the University of Cambridge and worked as a small animal vet for eighteen years before starting to write in 2016. Emma lives in Cambridgeshire with her husband and three sons, and she now writes full time.



* **THE BENCH by Saskia Sarginson**

Contemporary Romance | Piatkus | 384pp | March 2020

The most romantic novel of 2020, this is a tragic love story spanning three decades where the love affair starts and ends on a bench.

It begins at the end. It begins on a bench, on a heath, where a woman waits for a man. Ten years ago, they made a pact: On this bench, on this day, they will end a love affair that's spanned three decades, or start again. They should never should have met. They should never have fallen in love. But they did, until a lie separated them for a lifetime. Can they fix the mistake, forgive the lie, erase the years in-between? Can what was lost ever truly be found?

Saskia Sarginson was awarded a distinction in her MA in Creative Writing at Royal Holloway after a BA in English Literature from Cambridge University and a BA in Fashion Design & Communications. Before becoming a full-time author, Saskia's writing experience included being a health and beauty editor on women's magazines, a ghost writer for the BBC and Harper Collins and copy-writing and script editing. Option publishers: French (Marabout); US (Macmillan)

THE FREQUENCY OF LOVE by Keith Stuart

Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 400pp | May 2021 | Korea: KCC | Japan: TMA

New novel from the bestselling author of A BOY MADE OF BLOCKS and DAYS OF WONDER

In Second World War Bath, young, naïve wireless engineer Will meets German refugee Elsa Klein: she is sophisticated, witty and wordly, and at last his life seems to make sense . . . until, soon after, the newly married couple's home is bombed, and Will awakes from the wreckage to find himself alone. Seventy years later, Laura is a social worker battling her way out of depression and off medication. Her new case is a strange: an isolated old man whose house hasn't changed since the war. A man who insists his wife vanished many, many years before. Everyone thinks he's suffering dementia. But Laura begins to suspect otherwise . . .

Praise for DAYS OF WONDER: *So powerful, yet incredibly gentle and poignant. Utterly and completely beautiful* – Joanna Cannon, author of *The Trouble with Goats and Sheep*; *Utterly enchanting . . . a truly beautiful story* – Ruth Hogan, author of *The Keeper of Lost Things*; *A story of life, love and hope - the perfect antidote to today's world. Phenomenal* – Clare Mackintosh, author of *I LET YOU GO*.

KEITH STUART is a journalist and author of two novels, *A BOY MADE OF BLOCKS* and *DAYS OF WONDER*. His heart-warming debut novel, *A BOY MADE OF BLOCKS*, inspired by Stuart's real-life relationship with his autistic son, was a Richard and Judy Book Club pick and sold in twenty-eight territories. Option publishers: Chinese Simplified (TianJin Manyu), Dutch (HarperCollins), German (Goldmann), Hebrew (Matar), Italian (Corbaccio), Lithuanian (UAB Jotema), Portuguese in Brazil (Record), Russian (Azbooka-Atticus).

EVE by Una

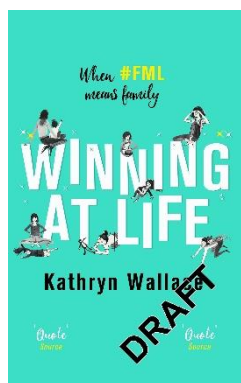
Graphic Novel | Virago | 256pp | August 2020 | Fully illustrated, full colour | Korea: KCC | Japan:

EVE is the first full-length graphic novel by acclaimed graphic memoirist Una, beautifully drawn by this award-winning artist and narrated by a mother and daughter

EVE is the story of a mother and daughter struggling to survive in a post-apocalyptic world which has provocative parallels with our current political reality, and explores themes of motherhood, community and survival. In a place which has been turned upside down by 'the event', and which grows more threatening by the day, Eve feels she has no choice but to run away and try to forge a new community - and her mother, who also narrates the story, feels she cannot stop her. But when Eve discovers that she is going to become a mother herself, the dangers she faces only multiply...

Praise for Una: *Unflinching, heart-breaking and utterly compelling. Una's story explores how the public silencing of women's voices too often creates a private hell* - Emma Jane Unsworth; *...the illustrations are beautiful, and the words are a powerful demand to listen to women's voices* - Elle; *Brilliant, brave and fiercely intelligent* - Kerry Hudson, *Herald Scotland Books of the Year*

UNA is an artist and writer whose work includes comics, zines, graphic novels, projects and commissions that explore life, fact and fiction through visual means; her website is Unacomics.com. Her graphic memoir *Becoming Unbecoming* was published by Myriad Editions in the UK in 2015 and has been translated into Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, French, Italian, and Turkish and a Canada/US edition. *Becoming Unbecoming* has been featured on BBC Radio 4 Woman's Hour, Open Book, Newsweek, *Elle*, *New York Times*, *Guardian*, *El Pais*, and was chosen as one of Oprah.com's Best Memoirs of 2016, a Forbidden Planet Books of the Year 2015 and one of *Elle's* Great Feminist Books of All Time.



*** WINNING AT LIFE by Kathryn Wallace**

Modern & Contemporary Fiction | Sphere | 320pp | February 2020

It's back to a new school term for the kids. Their mums - Gemma and Becky - are breathing a huge sigh of relief and reaching for the gin bottle. Except for the fact that Becky appears to be accidentally a little bit pregnant...

But that's not the first shock for the parents in the playground. Over the summer, part of their beloved Redcoats Primary has burned down. The school needs to raise thousands of pounds to stay open - and Gemma and Becky have been forced on to the fundraising committee (just to add to the millions of messages from their online parent groups). In year that will see new babies (for Becky), new schools (for Sam) and a whole new business for Gemma, will they all keep their heads above water - and find that they're #winningatlife?

KATHRYN WALLACE is an experienced blogger, whose writing career pinnacle to date was when a little blog post she wrote about her front bottom's run in with some mint and tea tree Original Source shower gel went viral and ended up being read by more than 30 million people globally. Option Publishers: Hungarian (Publish and More Kft/Alomgyar)



Literary

THE COLOURS by Juliet Bates

Contemporary Fiction | Fleet | 384pp | April 2020

An atmospheric, intense novel of the bond between mother and son, set against the backdrop of the world wars

Ellen sees the world differently from everyone else, but living as she does in a tiny town in the north-east of England, in a world on the cusp of war, no one has time for an orphaned girl who seems a little odd. When she is taken in to the local country house all seems to be going better, despite the musty curtains and an aging spinster completely out of touch with the world. But pregnancy out of wedlock spoils all this, and Ellen is unable to cope. How will Jack, her son, survive – orphaned like his mother was? Can they eventually find their way back to each other? *THE COLOURS* is a sweeping novel of how we can lose ourselves, and our loved ones.

JULIET BATES studied art and art history in Bristol, Birmingham and Strasbourg, and has since lectured at graduate and post graduate levels. She moved to France in 2000 to a post as professeur at the Ecole régionale des beaux-arts Caen la mer. She has published a number of short stories in British and Canadian literary journals.



THE QUARRY by Ben Halls

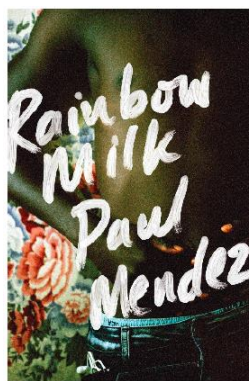
Contemporary Fiction | Dialogue Books | 256pp | February 2020

THE QUARRY is a collection of interconnected short stories set in the fictional working-class west London-based Quarry Lane estate

The characters and settings as themes of ambition, addiction, and social mobility are examined in this state-of-the-nation book. The stories focus on a diverse collection of working-class men and look at masculinity in a world where gender and gender roles are being revolutionised.

This work received a distinction from Kingston University's MFA Creative Writing programme and was overseen by acclaimed author Hanif Kureishi.

BEN HALLS is a London based writer and journalist who has written for VICE Sports and is currently working on a number of projects, including expanding on the world created in *THE QUARRY*, collaborating on a 'disgustingly British' romantic comedy script, and writing a horror story presented as a piece of faux-journalism.



RAINBOW MILK by Paul Mendez

Contemporary Fiction | Dialogue Books | 384pp | April 2020

Rainbow Milk is an intersectional coming-of-age story, following nineteen-year-old Jesse McCarthy as he grapples with his racial and sexual identities against the backdrop of a Jehovah's Witness upbringing and the legacies of the Windrush generation.

In the Black Country in the 1950s, ex-boxer Norman Alonso is a determined and humble Jamaican who has moved to Britain with his wife to secure a brighter future for themselves and their children. Blighted with unexpected illness and racism, Norman and his family are resilient in the face of such hostilities but are all too aware that they will need more than just hope to survive. At the turn of the millennium, Jesse seeks a fresh start in London - escaping from a broken immediate family, a repressive religious community and the desolate, disempowered Black Country - but finds himself at a loss for a new centre of gravity, and turns to sex work to create new notions of love, fatherhood and spirituality.

PAUL MENDEZ is from the Black Country. He now lives in London and is a member of two theatre companies, Scaffold State and Know My Mind. He has also worked as a voice actor, most recently recording Ian Wright's *A LIFE IN FOOTBALL* for Hachette Audio.

* **AN ORDINARY WONDER by Buki Papillon**

Contemporary Fiction | Dialogue | 320pp | October 2020

A powerful coming-of-age story about an intersex twin

AN ORDINARY WONDER follows Oto, one of Yoruba twins, who is raised as a boy but who has a secret – he is intersex, and wants to live life as a woman. This beautiful coming-of-age story follows Oto through boarding school and his attempt to emigrate to America to start a new life. Dealing with his complex relationships with his sister, his wealthy and powerful father, and the mother who views him as a monster, this is a moving examination of masculinity and gender.

BUKI PAPILLON was born in Nigeria. She studied law at Ibadan University and then moved to England for further law studies. She has since completed an MFA in Creative Writing at Lesley University in Massachusetts. She is an alumnus of the VONA Voices Workshops for writers of colour, and the recipient of several scholarships and award. She currently lives in Boston, Mass.

ONE NIGHT, NEW YORK by Lara Thompson

Crime & Mystery | Virago | 320pp | July 2020

The winner of the inaugural Virago/The Pool New Crime Writer Award, as judged by a committee including bestselling novelist Erin Kelly.

This debut novel opens at the top of the Empire State Building in 1932; Frances and Agnes, lovers and co-conspirators, are waiting for a man who has done something terrible to both of them, with a plan to seek the ultimate revenge. Set over the course of a single night, with flashbacks to the weeks leading up to the potential murder, ONE NIGHT, NEW YORK is a detective story, a romance and a coming-of-age tale. It is also a story of old New York, of bohemian Greenwich Village between the wars, of floozies and artists and addicts, of a city that sucked in creatives and immigrants alike, lighting up the world, while all around America burned amidst the heat of the Great Depression.

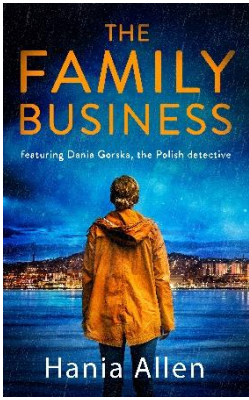
The Virago/The Pool New Crime Writer Award was set up to find an original and exciting new voice in crime fiction and received over two hundred entries in its first year. Thompson won a publishing contract with Virago as well as two hours of mentoring from Jill Dawson courtesy of Gold Dust mentoring. Val McDermid gave Thompson the award in person at the Bloody Scotland International Crime Writing Festival in Stirling. The judging committee was made up of novelist Erin Kelly, literary agent Jo Unwin, journalist Coco Khan, Scott Free Development Executive Emily Iredale, novelist and co-founder of The Pool Sam Baker and Virago Publisher Sarah Savitt. Lara Thompson teaches film at Middlesex University, and is the author of *Film Light: Meaning and Emotion*. Born in Cornwall, she now lives in London. ONE NIGHT, NEW YORK is her first novel.

* **HAG: FORGOTTEN FOLKTALES RETOLD by Various authors**

Folklore, myths & legends | Virago | 288pp | October 2020



Crime, Mystery & Thriller



* **THE FAMILY BUSINESS by Hania Allen**

Crime & Thriller | Constable | 352pp | February 2020

The third title in the Polish Detective series featuring DI Dania Gorska

The novel begins with a search in the area north of Dundee. The police and a group of volunteers are combing the landscape looking for a missing boy, suspected to be the latest victim of a child rapist. But what they find in a locked, derelict doocot are the remains of someone else, a boy who has been chained to the wall.

The boy is the youngest son of one Gregor Affleck, a freemason who runs a taxidermy business with his two grown-up sons, Kenny and Ross. As DI Dania Gorska delves deeper into the Affleck's dealings, the true nature of their disturbing business comes to light, and she must race to catch the child rapist before Gregor finds him first.

Praise for Hania Allen: *A fresh new find for crime fans* – Sunday Post; *Nicely nasty in all the right places . . . The story rattles along until bringing the curtain down with an unnerving twist* – Craig Robertson; *Captivating characters and an intriguing plot. A great new find for crime fans* – Lin Anderson; *Pitch-perfect . . . a witty, tense crime novel written in a highly readable style* – Russel D McLean

HANIA ALLEN was born in Liverpool, but has lived in Scotland longer than anywhere else. She has worked as a researcher, a mathematics teacher, an IT officer and finally in senior management, a post she left to write full time. She is the author of the Von Valenti novels and now lives in a fishing village in Fife.

STONE COLD TROUBLE: Book 2 in the ZAQ & JAGS series by Amer Anwar

Crime | Dialogue | 400pp | September 2020

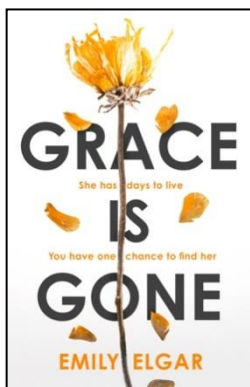
Follow up to the hugely successful London crime debut BROTHERS IN BLOOD

Still trying to keep his head down and stay out of trouble, ex-con Zaq Khan agrees to help his best friend, Jags, recover a family heirloom in the possession of a wealthy businessman. But then Zaq's brother is viciously assaulted and he's left wondering if it could have been somebody from his own past looking for revenge.

Wanting answers and also retribution, Zaq and Jags set out to track down those responsible. Meanwhile, their dealings with the businessman take a turn for the worse and Zaq and Jags find themselves suspected of murder. It'll take both brains and brawn to get themselves out of the trouble they're in and, no matter what happens, the result will likely be deadly. The only question is, whether it will prove deadly for them - or someone else?

Praise for BROTHERS IN BLOOD: *[A] Brilliant debut...reveal[s] what it can really be like to be a modern British Asian* – Sunday Times Crime Club; *A fine debut novel. With his engaging characters and skilful plotting, Anwar brings a fresh and exciting new voice to the genre* – Ann Cleeves; *An engaging hero, a cunning plot, and a fascinating journey into Southall's underworld. We'll be hearing a lot more from Amer Anwar* – Mick Herron; *An authentic slice of Brit Asian noir* – Vaseem Khan, author of the *Baby Ganesh Detective Agency* series; *Filled with breath-taking twists and turns. BROTHERS IN BLOOD is gritty, startlingly original and great fun. Amer Anwar is an exciting new voice in British crime fiction* – Robert Bryndza, author of the million+ selling ERIKA FOSTER series.

AMER ANWAR grew up in West London. He holds an MA in Creative Writing from Birkbeck, University of London and is a winner of the Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger Award. BROTHERS IN BLOOD is his debut novel and the first in the ZAQ & JAGS series.



GRACE IS GONE by Emily Elgar

Thriller | Sphere | 352pp | January 2020 | Korea: EYA | Japan: Japan Uni

The heart-breaking new psychological thriller from Emily Elgar, author of IF YOU KNEW HER

Meg and her daughter Grace are the most beloved family in Ashford, the lynchpin that holds the town together. So when Meg is found brutally murdered and her daughter missing, the community is rocked by the tragedy. Her daughter, Grace, has been sick for years and all Meg has ever done is look after her. Now Meg is dead, Grace is gone - and fears are growing for her life.

Who would kidnap a sick teenager? Who would murder a mother who sacrificed everything? As the community come to terms with what's happened, an unlikely pair start searching for answers: Jon, the most hated journalist in Ashford, and Cara, the young woman who found Meg's body. But once they start digging into the past, they will soon realise there's no going back.

Praise for IF YOU KNEW HER: *Brilliant and cleverly crafted* – Jane Corry, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *My Husband's Wife*; *Emotionally charged and tautly plotted, Emily Elgar's debut is a stunning example of psychological suspense* – Clare Mackintosh, *Sunday Times* number one bestseller of *I SEE YOU* and *I LET YOU GO*; *A wonderfully insidious build-up of tension* – *The Guardian*.

Originally from the Cotswolds, Emily Elgar studied at Edinburgh University and went on to complete the novel writing course at the Faber Academy in 2014. Option publishers: Czech (Mlada Fronta), Estonian (Tanapaev), German (Goldmann), Hungarian (Maxim), Italian (Fanucci), Polish (Marginesy), Portuguese in Brazil (Verus Editora)

Dutch – Uitgeverij De Fontein; *French* - Editions Belfond; *German* – Goldmann Verlag; *Italian* - Gruppo Editoriale Fanucci; *US* – William Morrow

THE MITFORD TRIAL by Jessica Fellowes

Historical Mystery | Sphere | 400pp | September 2020 | Korea: EntersKorea | Japan: TMA

A timeless whodunnit with the fascinating Mitford sisters at its heart, *The Mitford Trial* is inspired by a real-life murder in a story full of intrigue, affairs and betrayal.

It's lady's maid Louisa Cannon's wedding day, but the fantasy is shattered shortly after when she is approached by a secretive man asking her to spy on Diana Mitford - who is having an affair with the infamous Oswald Mosley - and her similarly fascist sister Unity.

Thus as summer 1933 dawns, Louisa finds herself accompanying the Mitfords on a glitzy cruise, full of the starriest members of Society. But the waters run red when a man is found attacked, with suspects everywhere.

Back in London, the case is taken by lawyer Tom Mitford, and Louisa finds herself caught between worlds: of a love lost to blood, a family divided, and a country caught in conflict.

Praise for THE MITFORD MURDERS series: *A fascinating, and highly enjoyable, read. I loved it* – Julian Fellowes; *BRIGHT YOUNG DEAD is a delightful melange of real and fictional characters* – *The Guardian*; *An extraordinary meld of fact and fiction* – Graham Norton; *A lively, well-written, entertaining whodunit* – *The Times*; *Exactly the sort of book you might enjoy with the fire blazing, the snow falling etc. The solution is neat and the writing always enjoyable* – Anthony Horowitz.

JESSICA FELLOWES is the author, of THE MITFORD MURDERS and BRIGHT YOUNG DEAD. As well as being an author, she is a journalist and public speaker, best known for her work as author of five official companion books to *Downton Abbey*, various of which have hit the *New York Times* and *Sunday Times* bestseller lists. Former deputy editor of *Country Life* and columnist for the *Mail on Sunday*, she has written for publications including *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Guardian*, *The Sunday Times* and *The Lady*. Option publishers: Czech (Euromedia), Danish (Politikens), Dutch (Uitgeverij Volt), Estonian (Varrak), Finnish (Otava); French (J C Lattes), German (Piper), Greek (Dioptra), Italian (Neri Pozza), Norwegian (Gyldendal), Polish (HarperCollins), Portuguese in Brazil (Record), Russian (Eksmo), Spanish (Roca), Swedish (Polaris), Ukraine (Family Leisure Club), US (St Martin's Press)

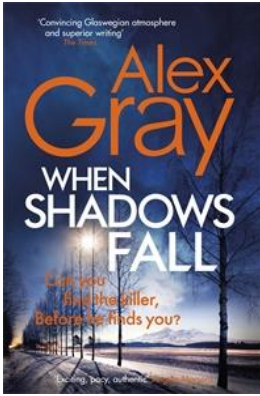
Dutch – Uitgeverij Volt

*** A DEATH ON THE TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS by C J Farrington**

Crime & Mystery | Constable | 416pp | March 2021

Olga Pushkin spends her days in a railway worker's hut alongside the tracks of the Trans-Siberian Railway in the small Siberian village of Roslazny, carrying out her duties for the railway company and dreaming of the day when she will have saved enough money to enrol on the literature course at Tomsk State University. The rest of the time, Olga has to look after her supposedly invalid father Mikail and run errands for her ungrateful Aunt Zia, while also keeping an eye out for her friend Anna Kabalevsky and her bullying husband Bogdan, and worrying about her brother Pasha, posted to the Crimea with the army. But when one morning Olga is knocked unconscious by the body of an American thrown from the Trans-Siberian Express, and the police sergeant – who has only just arrived in the village and is currently living in one of the police cells along with his pet ferret – begins the investigation, Olga insists on helping. However, they soon discover that the case isn't as simple as it may have first seemed . . .

CONOR FARRINGTON is a writer and academic at the University of Cambridge and Hughes Hall, Cambridge, where his research focuses on the intersections of technology, science and politics. In addition to a collection of short stories (*A Countryman's Creel*, *Merlin Unwin*) and an academic book (*Quantified Lives and Vital Data*, Palgrave Macmillan), he has published features, essays and reviews in publications including *The Guardian*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Political Quarterly*, *Science*, and *The Lancet*. He has also written on classical music for publications including *The Times Literary Supplement* and *Pianist* magazine and writes CD booklets for Chandos Records and King's College Cambridge.



* **WHEN SHADOWS FALL by Alex Gray**

Crime & Thriller | Sphere | 400pp | March 2020

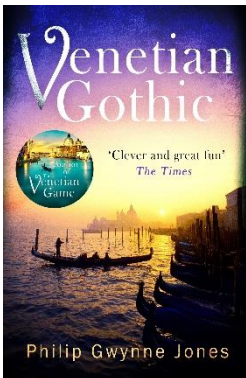
The latest William Lorimer investigation from bestselling author Alex Gray - Glasgow-set crime at its most thrilling

When his old friend and former colleague is shot dead at his home, Detective Superintendent William Lorimer is devastated. And his problems are only just beginning. It's not long before two further deaths are reported: both victims ex-policemen. It's clear this is a targeted campaign against their own, yet with no other link between the victims to identify the killer, Lorimer's police team are starting to panic. Who will be next? Lorimer knows he must keep his cool if he is to solve the case. But with time running out before

the next attack, he's struggling to ignore the sickening question at the back of his mind: Will he get to the killer, before the killer gets to him?

Alex Gray was born and educated in Glasgow and is the author of the bestselling WILLIAM LORIMER series. After studying English and Philosophy at the University of Strathclyde, she worked as a visiting officer for the DHSS, a time she looks upon as postgraduate education since it proved a rich source of character studies. She then trained as a secondary school teacher of English. Alex began writing professionally in 1993 and had immediate success with short stories, articles and commissions for BBC radio programmes. A regular on Scottish bestseller lists, she has been awarded the Scottish Association of Writers' Constable and Pitlochry trophies for her crime writing. She is also the co-founder of the international Scottish crime writing festival, Bloody Scotland, which had its inaugural year in 2012.

The WILLIAM LORIMER series has sold over one million copies worldwide!



* **VENETIAN GOTHIC by Philip Gwynne Jones**

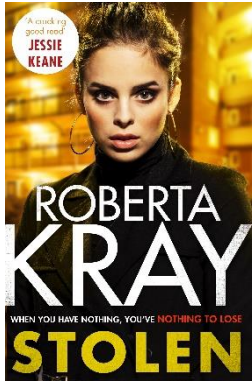
Crime | Constable | 368pp | April 2020

For fans of Joseph Kanon, Donna Leon and Abir Mukherjee comes a fantastic new thriller, set in one of the most beautiful cities on earth

It is November 2nd, 2017. All Souls Day. On the Day of the Dead, the citizens of Venice make their way to the cemetery island of San Michele to pay their respects to the departed. When an empty coffin is unearthed in the English section of the graveyard, a day of quiet reflection for Nathan Sutherland becomes a journey into the dark past of a noble Venetian family.

A British journalist, investigating the events of forty years previously, disappears. A young tourist – with an unhealthy interest in Venice's abandoned islands – is found drowned in the icy lagoon. A terrible secret is about to be brought to light, and a deadly reckoning awaits on Venice's Isle of the Dead.

PHILIP GWYNNE JONES was born in South Wales in 1966, and lived and worked throughout Europe before settling in Scotland in the 1990s. He first came to Italy in 1994, when he spent some time working for the European Space Agency in Frascati. Philip now works as a teacher, writer and translator, and lives in Venice with Caroline. He enjoys cooking, art, classical music and opera; and can occasionally be seen and heard singing bass with Cantori Veneziani and the Ensemble Vocale di Venezia. Option publisher: German (Rowohlt)



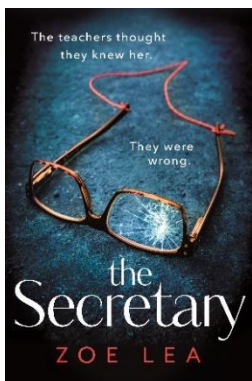
* **STOLEN: WHEN YOU HAVE NOTHING, YOU'VE NOTHING TO LOSE... by Roberta Kray**

Crime & Thriller | Sphere | 416pp | March 2020

The 15th book from bestselling crime author Roberta Kray

Lolly Bruce spent several years in the lap of luxury, but now she's back in a world she knows: London's East End. Her guardian Mal Fury is doing time, so Lolly is working on the wrong side of the law to get by. She'll need to use all her street smarts to keep her safe in Kellston. Then one day the Old Bill turn up on her doorstep – Mal is on the run. But why when he has only months left to serve? Lolly is convinced the only thing Mal would escape for is news about the daughter he lost nineteen years ago. Nick Trent knows better than to get dragged into the Fury case, but his better judgement doesn't count for much when it comes to Lolly. He agrees to help her track Mal down, and try and solve the mystery of Kay Fury's abduction once and for all.

Through her marriage to Reggie Kray, ROBERTA KRAY has a unique and authentic insight into London's East End. Roberta met Reggie in early 1996 and they married the following year; they were together until Reggie's death in 2000. Roberta is the author of many previous bestsellers including NO MERCY, DANGEROUS PROMISES, EXPOSED and SURVIVOR.



THE SECRETARY by Zoe Lea

Psychological Suspense | Piatkus | 368pp | August 2020 | Korea: | Japan: TMA

The teachers thought they knew her. They were wrong...

When single mum, Ruth, has a brief fling with Rob, she's mortified to discover that he lied to her. He lied to her, because he's married. Worse still, he's the husband of Janine, an alpha mum at the primary school where Ruth works as the secretary, and when the truth of their fling is discovered, Ruth suddenly has a lot of enemies at the school gates.

Threatening texts begin to arrive, rumours abound and the staff room becomes hostile. But when it also starts to affect her son, a student at the school, Ruth realises you can do anything if you convince yourself it's for the sake of your child. Even murder.

ZOE LEA has previously worked as a teacher, photographer, and freelance journalist. Her debut novel *If He Wakes* was published in April by Canelo. She lives in the Lake District with her husband and children. THE SECRETARY is her first novel for Little, Brown.



* **BLACK RAIN FALLING** by **Jacob Ross**

Crime & Mystery | Sphere | 288pp | March 2020 | Korea: | Japan: TMA

The stunning second novel by Jhalak Prize-winning novelist Jacob Ross delves deeply into issues of family, class, friendship and loyalty, asking just how far a person should go to protect those they love

On the Caribbean island of Camaho, Michael 'Digger' Digson is in deep trouble. Miss Stanislaus, his friend and fellow CID detective, kills a man who assaulted her as a child. As the only witness, Digger knows it was self-defence, but their superiors believe it was murder, and he's given just six weeks to prove otherwise...six weeks in which Digger catches a shocking roadside murder and the Justice Minister attempts to break up the unit, and with it both the pair and their unconventional boss, DS Chilman. As Digger and Miss Stanislaus delve further into the tangled mesh of murders on the island, they discover a thread of crime, cruelty and corruption that suggests a storm is due to break over Camaho at any moment.

Praise for THE BONE READERS: *THE BONE READERS is a page-turner, but its insights and language are equally testament to a literary novel of impressive depth and acuity* - The Guardian; *A breathtaking, thought-provoking, and yes, brilliant read. I know this is a book I shall go back to again and again* - Sunny Singh; *By turns thrilling, visceral and meditative, and always cinematic* - Musa Okwonga. *Jacob Ross is a truly amazing writer. Black Rain Falling is an outstanding novel, it gripped me from the first page to the last* - Bernadine Evaristo

JACOB ROSS was born in Grenada and now lives in Britain. A fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, he is the author of two acclaimed collections of short stories, *A Way to Catch the Dust* and *Song for Simone*, and *Tell No-One About This* - nominated by The 2018 Bocas Literary Festival as one of the three best works of Caribbean fiction published in 2017. His first novel, *Pynter Bender*, was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers Regional Prize, and his debut crime novel, THE BONE READERS won the inaugural Jhalak Prize.

French - Editions Sonatine

* **MAKING WOLF** by **Tade Thompson**

Crime & Thriller | Constable | 304pp | May 2020

MAKING WOLF is the outrageous, frightening, violent and sometimes surreal homecoming experience of a lifetime

Meet Weston Kogi, a London supermarket store detective. He returns home to his West African home country for his aunt's funeral. He sees his family, his ex-girlfriend Nana, his old school mate Church. Food is good, beer is plentiful, and telling people he works as a homicide detective seems like harmless hyperbole, until he wakes up in hell. He is kidnapped and forced by two separate rebel factions to investigate the murder of a local hero, Papa Busi. The solution may tip a country on the brink into civil war.

Praise for Tade Thompson: *A magnificent tour de force* - Adrian Tchaikovsky; *Smart. Gripping. Fabulous!* - Ann Leckie; *Mesmerising* - M.R. Carey.

TADE THOMPSON is the author of the ROSEWATER Trilogy, the first book of which was a John W. Campbell Award finalist, winner of the 2017 NOMMO Award for Best Novel and winner of the 2019 Arthur C. Clarke Award. His novella *The Murders of Molly Southbourne* has recently been optioned for screen adaptation. He also writes short stories, notably *The Apologists* which was nominated for a British Science Fiction Association Award. Born in London to Yoruba parents, he lives and works on the south coast of England where he battles an addiction to books. Option Publishers: French (J'ai Lu), German (Golkonda), Russian (AST), Spanish (Alianza), Turkish (Eksik).

THE MIMOSA TREE by Ovidia Yu

Crime & Mystery | Constable | 352pp | June 2020

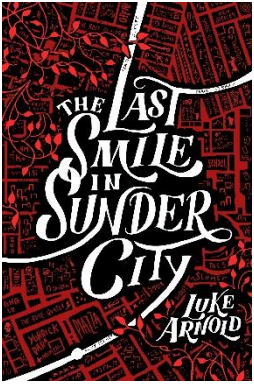
Mirza, a secretive neighbour of the Chens in Japanese Occupied Singapore, is a known collaborator and blackmailer. So, when he is murdered in his garden, clutching a branch of mimosa, the suspects include local acquaintances, Japanese officials -- and his own daughters. Su Lin's Uncle Chen is among those rounded up by the Japanese as reprisal. Hideki Tagawa, a former spy expelled by police officer Le Froy and a power in the new regime, offers Su Lin her uncle's life in exchange for using her fluency in languages and knowledge of locals to find the real killer. Su Lin soon discovers Hideki has an ulterior motive. Friends, enemies and even the victim are not what they seem. There is more at stake here than one man's life. Su Lin must find out who killed Mirza and why, before Le Froy and other former colleagues detained or working with the resistance suffer the consequences of Mirza's last secret.

Praise for the Ovidia Yu: *Chen Su Lin is a true gem. Her slyly witty voice and her admirable, sometimes heartbreaking, practicality make her the most beguiling narrator heroine I've met in a long while* – Catriona McPherson; *Charming and fascinating with great authentic feel...This book is exactly why I love historical novels* – Rhys Bowen; *A wonderful detective novel . . . a book that introduces one of the most likeable heroines in modern literature and should be on everyone's Must Read list* – Scotsman.

OVIDIA YU is one of Singapore's best-known and most acclaimed writers. She has had over thirty plays produced and is the author of a number of comic mysteries published in Singapore, India, Japan and America. She received a Fulbright to the University of Iowa's International Writers Program and has been a writing fellow at the National University of Singapore.



Sci-Fi & Fantasy



THE LAST SMILE IN SUNDER CITY by Luke Arnold

Contemporary Fantasy | Orbit | 352pp | February 2020

A wonderfully original fantasy and film noir debut

Fetch Phillips fought on the wrong side of a war between humans and magical creatures, and his actions helped to drain the world of enchantment. Now he works on the streets of Sunder City, taking what odd jobs he can while trying to help those whose lives he ruined. His first case is to find a missing teacher. Professor Rye is a four-hundred-year-old vampire with a heart of gold in a husk of a body. In a world without magic, most vamps have already crumbled into dust, but Fetch is happy to go looking for some dirt with pointed teeth if it gets him his drinking money. Then, when a young siren disappears, Fetch finds out that this dark world still hides some monsters - and he'd better clean up his act before they come into the light.

LUKE ARNOLD played Long John Silver in the Emmy-winning *Black Sails*, and Michael Hutchence in the INXS mini-series *Never Tear Us Apart*. Recently he has moved into directing his own films, beginning with the upcoming short film *Gutterpunks*.

German - Verlagsgruppe Droemer Knaur GmbH & Co. KG; *US* - Orbit; *Portuguese in Brazil only* - Nova Fronteira; *Italian* - Triskell Edizioni; *Spanish* - Trini Casa Editore

THE CULTURE: NOTES AND DRAWINGS by Iain M. Banks and Ken MacLeod

Sci-Fi | Orbit | 304pp | July 2020

An essential book for all Iain M. Banks fans, celebrating his Culture universe and featuring original drawings by Banks himself, with additional notes and material by Ken MacLeod

Iain M. Banks, the modern master of Sci-Fi, created many original drawings detailing the universe of his bestselling CULTURE novels. Now these illustrations - many of them annotated - are being published for the very first time in a book that celebrates Banks's grand vision, with additional notes and material by Banks's longtime friend and fellow Sci-Fi author Ken MacLeod. It is an essential addition to the collection of any Iain M. Banks fan.

Praise for the CULTURE series: *Epic in scope, ambitious in its ideas and absorbing in its execution* - *Independent on Sunday*; *Banks has created one of the most enduring and endearing visions of the future* - *The Guardian*; *Jam-packed with extraordinary invention* - *Scotsman*; *Compulsive reading* - *The Sunday Telegraph*.

IAIN BANKS came to widespread and controversial public notice with the publication of his first novel, THE WASP FACTORY, in 1984. He has since gained enormous popular and critical acclaim for both his mainstream and his science fiction novels.

KEN MACLEOD is the author of twelve previous novels, five of which have been nominated for the Arthur C. Clarke Award, and two which have won the BSFA Award.

Russian - AST

MAKER'S CURSE: Book Four of MILLENNIUM'S RULE series by Trudi Canavan

Fantasy | Orbit | 560pp | May 2020

The final instalment of THE MILLENNIUM'S RULE series

Rielle the Maker, restorer of worlds. That is how she is known now. She has lost count of the number of worlds Baluka has sent her to save. But when he sends her to a world that isn't magically dead, she is caught up in far more complex troubles than she has time to sort out. Because her next visit to her own world, to check on Qall, is fast drawing close. After five cycles in exile, is he ready to return to the worlds? Tyen has cast off his old identity. No longer a spy, his attempts to teach new sorcerers and find ways to counteract the war-machines have been thwarted by interference from Liftre. Then when the chance comes to amend past wrongs it also brings a possible solution to his troubles. Until an old enemy brings news of something worse than dead worlds and sorcerers, and not even the most powerful sorcerers can stop it.

Praise for MILLENNIUM'S RULE series: *Canavan brings the two very different worlds to vivid life, writes believable characters caught in dilemmas and leads the story to a satisfying climax while leaving room for future development* – *The Guardian*; *The world-building is tremendous. The magical system is sophisticated and fascinating* – *Striking Keys*; *Rielle's story entrances . . . leaving readers eager for the next two volumes* – *Publisher's Weekly*.

TRUDI CANAVAN'S books have sold over two million copies in the UK. She published her first story in 1999 and it received an Aurealis Award for Best Fantasy Short Story. Her debut series, the BLACK MAGICIAN trilogy, made her an international success, and all three volumes of her AGE OF THE FIVE trilogy were *Sunday Times* bestsellers. Option publishers: Spanish (Penguin Random House)

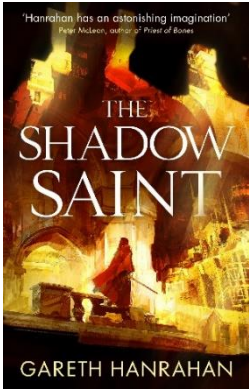
Polish – Galeria Ksiazki; *US* – Orbit;

*** UNTITLED JOHN GWYNNE 1 by John Gwynne**

Fantasy | Orbit | 528pp | April 2021

This new series – currently titled 'Bloodsworn' – marks a departure from John's previous books and is set in a brand-new fantasy world, strongly influenced by Norse myths and sagas. It is a fractured, war-torn land of feuding kingdoms and vicious rivalries, where the gods are dead, but their bones and relics hold great power for those brave – or desperate – enough to seek them out. Mercenary bands compete for the best spoils, but power often carries a deadly price . . .

JOHN GWYNNE is the author of the Faithful and the Fallen series, the Of Blood and Bone trilogy, and the upcoming Bloodsworn series – to be published by Orbit in Spring 2021. He lives with his wife, four children and three dogs in East Sussex. When not writing, he works with his wife rejuvenating vintage furniture.



THE SHADOW SAINT by Gareth Hanrahan

Fantasy | Orbit | 576pp | January 2020

Set in a world of dark gods and dangerous magic, THE SHADOW SAINT is the gripping, darkly inventive sequel to Gareth Hanrahan's acclaimed debut THE GUTTER PRAYER

With his acclaimed debut THE GUTTER PRAYER, Gareth Hanrahan introduced a world of sorcerers and thieves, broken gods and dangerous magic. Now this epic tale continues in THE SHADOW SAINT, the gripping second novel in the BLACK IRON LEGACY. As the Godswar draws ever closer and tensions within the city escalate, how long will the people of Guerdon be able to keep their enemies at bay?

Praise for THE GUTTER PRAYER: *A ground breaking and extraordinary novel . . . Hanrahan has an astonishing imagination* – Peter McLean, author of *Priest of Bones*; *A gripping tale that meshes beautifully with its fascinating, darkly inventive setting* – James Islington, author of *THE SHADOW OF WHAT WAS LOST*; *Beautifully written. Gripping. Guerdon is the city of my dreams* – Anna Smith Spark, author of *The Court of Broken Knives*.

GARETH HANRAHAN'S three-month break from computer programming to concentrate on writing has now lasted fifteen years and counting. He's written more gaming books than he can readily recall, by virtue of the alchemical transmutation of tea and guilt into words. He lives in Ireland with his wife and twin sons. Follow him on twitter @mytholder. Option Publishers: Russian (Eksmo); Turkish (Egitim).

Portuguese in Brazil – Nova Fronteira; *Spanish* – Trini Casa Editora; *US* – Orbit

*** BROTHER RED by Adrian Selby**

Fantasy | Orbit | 368pp | May 2020 | Korea: | Japan: TMA

A gritty and epic standalone fantasy adventure, from the author of SNAKEWOOD and THE WINTER ROAD.

When the trade caravan Driwna Marghoster was hired to protect is attacked, she discovers a dead body hidden inside a barrel. Born of the powerful but elusive Oskoro people, the body is a rare and priceless find, the centre of a tragic tale and the key to a larger mystery... For when Driwna investigates who the body was meant for, she will find a trail of deceit and corruption which could bring down a kingdom, and an evil more powerful than she can imagine.

ADRIAN SELBY studied creative writing at university before embarking on a career in video game production. He is a Tolkien fanatic and an online gaming addict. His debut novel SNAKEWOOD is an epic and inventive fantasy about a company of mercenaries and the assassin trying to destroy them. You can find Adrian on Twitter, tweeting as @adrianlselby. Option publishers: German (Bastei Luebbe)

US – Orbit

*** UNTITLED by Suzanne Wright**

Contemporary Fiction | Piatkus | 368pp | July 2020

The brand-new paranormal romance from the bestselling author of the DARK IN YOU series

Discover the beginning of a new, fiery romance set in the DARK IN YOU universe. Meet Tanner and Devon – a couple who fight like cat and dog (or hellcat and hellhound, to be precise) and who are the perfect match for each other!

SUZANNE WRIGHT lives in England with her husband and two children. She's worked in a pharmaceutical company, at a Disney Store, at a primary school as a voluntary teaching assistant, at the RSCPA and has a First-Class Honours degree in Psychology and Identity Studies. Option publishers: French (Bragelonne).

Rights Representatives

Brazil

Tassy Barham
Tassy Barham Associates
23 Elgin Crescent
London
W11 2JD
United Kingdom
T: 0207 229 8667
tassy@tassybarham.com

Czech Republic

Kristin Olson
Kristin Olson Literary Agency
Klimentska 24
110 00 Prague 1
Czech Republic
T: +440 222 582 042
kristin.olson@litag.cz

Russia

Sergei Cheredov
Nova Littera Ltd
Serafinovicha Street, 2
P.O. Box 11
119072 Moscow
Russia
T: 007 909 630 0707
pravaru@gmail.com

Bulgaria

Katalina Sabeva
62 G.M. Dimitrov Blvd./ Suite 20
Anthea Literary Agency
P.O. Box 16
Sofia
1172
Bulgaria
T: 39 2 986 3581
katalina@antheaights.com

Japan

Non-exclusive representation

Korea

Non-exclusive representation

Serbia, Former Yugoslavia

Milena Kaplarevic
Prava I Prevodi
Yu-Business Centre
Bld. Mihalia Pupina 10B/1
11070 Belgrade
Serbia & Montenegro
T: 38 111 3016141
milena@pravaiprevodi.org

Poland

Łukasz Wróbel
Graal Limited
Ul. Pruszkowska 29
02-119 Warszawa
Poland
T: 4822 895 2000
lukasz@graal.com.pl

Thailand

Erica Zhang
Big Apple Agency Inc
Zhongshan Bei Road, No. 838, 3/F
Zhabei District
Shanghai 200070
PR China
T: 8621 6658 0055
erica-zhang@bigapple-china.com

Mainland China

Lily Chen
Big Apple Agency Inc
Zhongshan Bei Road, No. 838, 3/F
Zhabei District
Shanghai 200070
PR China
T: 8621 6658 0055
lily-shanghai@bigapple-china.com

Romania

Simona Kessler
International Copyright Agency
Sr. Banul Antonache 37
011663 Bucharest 1
Romania
T: 40 21 231 8150
office@kessler-agency.ro

Taiwan

Vincent Lin
Big Apple Agency Inc
5F.4, No. 102, Dunhua South Rd.,
Songsan District.,
Taipei City 10557
Taiwan
T: 886 2 8771 4611 ext.103
Vincent-lin@bigapple1-taipei.com

Hungary

Orsi Mészáros
Kátai & Bolza Literary Agents
H-1056 Budapest
Szerb u. 17-19.
Hungary
T: : +36 1 456 0313
orsi@kataibolza.hu